

U. S. GIVES BERLIN FACTS ON THE ARABIC; BERNSTORFF PROMISES DISAVOWAL

FOUR SEIZED STEAMERS DECLARED TO HAVE CARRIED FOOD MEANT FOR GERMANY

Court Holds That Vessels Were Taking to Copenhagen Twenty Times the Amount of Meat Ordinarily Shipped to That Port.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—The British prize court to-day condemned the greater part of the American products forming the cargoes of four steamships. The products, valued at several million dollars, are declared forfeited to the crown.

The judgment was delivered by Sir Samuel T. Evans, President of the court. It involves the cargoes of the Norwegian steamships Jim, Alfred Nobel, Bjornstjerne-Bjornson and Fridland. All the goods on these vessels, consisting principally of American meat products, are confiscated with the exception of a small proportion which the court released to claimants.

The case has been pending for several months. The steamships were seized last November, and although efforts were made by the American owners to obtain an early trial the British authorities set the hearing for June. The hearing closed last month and judgment was reserved until to-day.

In a lengthy judgment, Sir Samuel said it was plain these ships were carrying toward Copenhagen when captured more than thirteen times the amount of goods which under normal circumstances would have been taken to that port. That fact gave practical and overwhelming assurance that the goods were intended to find their way to Germany, although, of course, it did not prove conclusively that they were destined for an enemy of Great Britain.

One circumstance throwing light on the real destination of the goods, Sir Samuel said, was that the exportation of lard by one American company alone to Copenhagen in three weeks after the outbreak of the war was twenty times more than in periods of peace. As to tins of canned meat, he said, it had not been shown they had been sent to Denmark in any great quantity before the war, yet hundreds of thousands were on the way when the vessels were captured. These tins, it seemed, could not have been meant for any persons other than German soldiers.

Referring to the consignments of rubber, described as gum, the President said: "I have come to the conclusion that gum is not a true commercial description for rubber, and that it was used in the ships' manifests in order to avoid the difficulty which would result in its capture by a belligerent. Any concealment of this sort will, while I sit in the Prize Court, weigh heavily against those who adopt such courses."

"Neutrals are expected to conduct their neutral trade during the war without false papers and with candor, and belligerents are entitled to expect from neutrals a frank course of conduct."

The meat cargoes, shipped for the most part by the great American packing companies and valued by them at \$15,000,000, were found by the President to be destined, except for some small items, not for consumption in Denmark, but for delivery in Germany. He said that their eventual destination was the German Government, for the use of its naval and military forces. To rule otherwise, Sir Samuel said, would be to allow one's eyes to be blinded by theories and technicalities.

The court disallowed sixteen claims, including those of the Morris, Armour, Hammond, Swift and Sulzberger companies. It allowed eight claims, including that of the Cudahy Company of Chicago. The others were Danish consignees.

Sir Samuel gave leave to appeal, fixing security for the costs at \$25,000, divisible among the appellants. He also gave the crown attorney leave to appeal in the cases of the Cudahy and other claims which were allowed.

BRITISH ADMIT LOSS OF SUBMARINE E-7

Turks Claimed to Have Sunk Submersible and Captured Her Crew.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—The Admiralty officially admitted this afternoon that the recent Turkish claim that the British submarine E-7 has been sunk and its crew captured "is presumably true."

The E-7 has not returned to her base, though overdue, and is now given up as lost.

The E-7 was 175 feet long and displaced 310 tons. She had a speed of 16 knots on the surface and was one of the largest and fastest of the British submersibles. She carried normally a crew of 16 men.

The E-7 carried three officers and a crew of twenty-five men at the time she was sunk, it was stated. She has not been heard from since Sept. 4.

BRITISH LOST 79,238 IN DARDANELLES

War Secretary Reports 1,130 Officers Killed and 2,371 Wounded.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—British losses at the Dardanelles to date total 79,238 in killed and wounded. Under Secretary for War Tennant announced in the House of Commons this afternoon.

These losses, Mr. Tennant said, were divided as follows:

Officers—1,130 killed or died of their wounds; 2,371 wounded.

Men—16,478 killed or died of their wounds; 59,259 wounded.

PROF. THAYER DEAD IN RIVER.

Dean of Harvard Law School Had Been Missing Two Days.

BOSTON, Sept. 16.—The body of Ezra R. Thayer, dean of the Harvard Law School and an authority on international law, was taken from the Charles River Basin, off Deerfield Street, Back Bay, by the police to-day. Dean Thayer was apparently due to drown. An examination made by the police failed to disclose any marks that would indicate Dean Thayer had met with foul play.

After an inquiry Medical Examiner McGrath said the case was one of suicide. Thayer had been under the care of a physician for some time. Because of ill health he had been obliged to give up some of his lectures at the law school. He returned from New York on Tuesday, and about 4 o'clock that afternoon he was seen leaving his home in the Back River district. His body was found near his house. His watch had stopped at 4:30.

SENT SHIP ASHORE AND GAVE HIS LIFE FOR ONE OF CREW

Survivors Here Tell of Thrilling Wreck of Graecia on Coast of Bermuda.

CAUGHT IN HURRICANE.

Capt. Boothe Sought Life Preserver for Fireman and Was Only One Lost.

The Quebec liner Bermudian arrived from Bermuda to-day with sixty shipwrecked sailors among her passengers, and brought the story of how Capt. Ernest Boothe of the British steamship Pollokshiel, caught off the Bermudian coast in a hurricane and fog, ran his vessel ashore head on and sacrificed his life while trying to insure the safety of one of his crew. This story has added interest because the Pollokshiel was, up to the outbreak of the war, the Hamburg-American liner Graecia, plying between New York and West Indian and Central American ports.

The Graecia slipped out of New York Harbor with a cargo of coal for the German cruiser Karlsruhe, was captured by the British, taken to Gibraltar and sold. Her name was changed to the Pollokshiel and she was used by the Admiralty as a supply ship.

The Pollokshiel, with a crew of thirty-two men, left Cardiff, Wales, for Bermuda on Aug. 22 with a cargo of shells and gunpowder. In mid-Atlantic she encountered the great Gulf hurricane and fought wind, fog and seas for five days. Capt. Boothe had lost his bearings when at 8 o'clock in the morning of Sept. 7 the fog lifted and he found himself almost ashore on Elba Beach on the south coast of Bermuda.

He tried in vain to get his vessel away from the reefs but the gale was too strong. Nothing remained to be done but run ashore. Capt. Boothe ordered the fire banked, called all the men up from below and assembled them on deck, tied down his whistle cord and headed his ship for the coral shore.

The journey was not a long one and the Pollokshiel soon struck, burying her nose in a great smother of waves beating over the reefs. She beached herself in such a way that she rested on a shelf of coral and in a few hours she began to break in two just forward of the mainmast.

Capt. Boothe discovered that one of his firemen did not have a life preserver. The fireman said he had not been able to find one. The captain started aft for a preserver just as the ship broke in two, and the last he men saw of him he was being carried away on the crest of a wave.

The rear end of the ship slipped off into deep water and much of the cargo fell out into the sea. The thirty-two survivors were taken off after thirty hours by Antonio Marabelli, a Portuguese fisherman, who manipulated a whaleboat through the surf and got it alongside the stranded hulk.

Five of the survivors of the Pollokshiel remained in Bermuda to work at recovering some of the shells as remain in the wreck. The others will remain here until Saturday, when they will start for England.

Besides the survivors of the Pollokshiel the Bermudian brought thirty-three survivors of the wreck in mid-Atlantic on Aug. 15 of the Italian steamship Purificazione, bound from Genoa to Norfolk, Va. The captain and crew of the Purificazione abandoned her several hours before she went to the bottom and were picked up a couple of days later by the British steamship Cayo Gittmano, which took them to Bermuda.

PRENDERGAST ASKS FOR REVOLUTION IN THE CITY SCHOOLS

Comptroller Would Save \$4,000,000 and Eliminate All Part Time.

"GARY PLAN" THE BASE.

He'd Cut Down Number and Salaries of Teachers and Have Longer School Sessions.

Sweeping changes of a most radical nature affecting the entire public school system of Greater New York, with its 25,000 teachers and principals and close on a million children, are to be recommended by Comptroller William A. Prendergast at to-morrow's meeting of the Board of Education. If the recommendations of the Comptroller are adopted—and it is very likely they will be—\$4,000,000 will be saved the taxpayers; part time and overcrowding, it is promised, will be entirely eliminated in the schools; four weeks will be cut from the summer vacations of teachers and pupils, which, he says, are so lengthy they are a "public scandal"; the school day will be lengthened from five to six hours; teachers will receive no extra pay for services in vocational schools and the general number of teachers' positions reduced 10 per cent.

After the present public school system of the city shall have been completely revolutionized, the Comptroller recommends that the system in vogue at Gary, Ind., brought here by Prof. Wirt, now reorganizing twelve schools, be adopted. It is the Wirt plan which will enable the city to conduct 496 classes with 448 teachers.

It is certain that the organized teachers of the city will fight the Comptroller and those members of the Board of Estimate who uphold him to the very last ditch. There is already much bitterness toward the Comptroller by certain teachers as a result of the Comptroller's reports exposing the bankrupt condition of the Teachers' Pension Fund. This last stand of the Comptroller will be looked upon by the leaders of teachers' organizations as revolutionary.

GARY SYSTEM AT BASE OF REFORM.

The Comptroller explains at the outset of his crusade: "what he believes to be a remedying of most of the present New York public school evils, that under the Wirt system the 10 per cent. reduction in the number of school teachers' positions will be made possible by lengthening the school days and the school year."

He also recommends "a change in the system of promoting teachers whereby merit alone shall control. This means the eradication of the system of paying teachers more for service in the Seventh and Eighth grades and the substitution of a plan whereby each teacher shall teach in classes for which she is best fitted."

The reforms Prof. Wirt suggests will bring about a reduction of the common school course to seven years, Mr. Prendergast says.

In his exhaustive report to the

(Continued on Seventh Page.)

ONLY 228 IN TOMBS.

District Attorney Has Cut Down Number of Prisoners.

How District Attorney Perkins is handling the criminal business of the county is shown in the following report made to the Judges of General Sessions to-day:

A year ago to-day there were 472 prisoners in the Tombs. To-day there are 228. Of these 228 there are 142 awaiting trial, as against 345 of a year ago. Last year there were 583 indictments pending at this time. This year there are but 600.

PROXY FOR HUSBAND WILL MARRY WIDOW



MISS MILDRED COLLITON
Wealthy Girl Sails to Wed Man Who Stood at Altar for Friend.

The world war, and the custom of marrying by proxy, have added a novel turn to the romance of Miss Mildred Colliton, the pretty daughter of a wealthy Willimantic, Conn., thread manufacturer.

She was to have married Lieut. Leslie Montague Cowan of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry on June 12, 1914, but the wealthy young British army officer was unexpectedly ordered to India.

Consequently his friend, Courtney Radcliffe, also a British army officer, acted as proxy; and on July 12, 1914, Miss Colliton was formally wedded to Lieut. Cowan.

When the war came, Lieut. Cowan was ordered from India to France and was killed, and his proxy bride was left a widow.

To-day Mrs. Cowan sailed on the United Fruit liner Zacapa for Jamaica to become the bride of Mr. Radcliffe.

FRANCE WILL CALL BOYS OF 18 TO JOIN THE ARMY

Men of 47 Also to be Held in Readiness for Service at the Front.

PARIS, Sept. 16.—The Government to-day introduced in the Chamber of Deputies a bill calling to the colors the class of 1917, the date to be fixed by the Minister of War. The bill also provides that the members of the class of 1918 hold themselves in readiness for service at the disposition of the War Minister until the end of the war.

The bill, which probably will be passed at once without debate, brings to the colors French youths of eighteen years and orders men of forty-seven who are still fit for service to hold themselves in readiness.

U. S. TROOPS FIRE ON BANDITS

Mexican Gang Believed Same That Killed Two Soldiers.

BROWNSVILLE, Tex., Sept. 16.—Bandits believed to be those who recently killed two American civilians were discovered to-day on the Presnos tract, ten miles north of here. Fired on by a party of citizens and soldiers, the Mexicans fled, leaving a trail of blood. They were being pursued through the brush late to-day.

TWO WITNESSES TO SWEAR ROFRANO ORDERED MURDER

District Attorney Finds Men Fennimore Said Attended Conference With Slayers.

TWO NEW INDICTMENTS.

District Attorney Trying to Get Evidence Against Others "Higher Up."

Two important witnesses, who are said by the District Attorney to be in position to confirm Frank Fennimore's charge that Mike Rofrano, under indictment for murder in the first degree, hired an assassin to kill Mike Gaimari last March, were hurried into the District Attorney's office to-day by Central Office Detective Meally, who found them in Brooklyn. Their names were furnished by Fennimore. They are said to have been present at conferences between Rofrano, Fennimore and Rocco Carnivale at which the assassination of Gaimari was discussed.

A new name was brought into the Rofrano case to-day by Frank Tringuella, a witness before the Grand Jury. He swore that a prominent criminal lawyer coached him in perjured testimony to be given at the trial of Carnivale and Gaetano Montimagno, and rejected him because he could not stand a rigid cross examination. After finding two additional indictments the Grand Jury adjourned until next Thursday.

The delay will give the district attorney and the police a chance to round up witnesses and confirm, in all probability, the details of a plot to kill Tom Foley and Congressman Dan Rordan. Mr. Perkins has information that two separate attempts were made on the life of each.

Mr. Perkins is particularly interested in the story that two assassins, armed with knives, hid in the doorway of Foley's home to attack him on his arrival. They got their signals mixed, ran into each other and fell down a flight of stairs. Foley heard a voice he says he recognized call from across the street—the man speaking thinking that Foley had been done for—"That's yours, Foley, for what you did to me Election Day."

SAY OTHERS 'HIGHER UP' WERE INVOLVED IN KILLING.

The police have information that two or more men prominent in the Second Assembly District and closely associated with Foley up to the time Rofrano broke away from the Tammany organization, were implicated in the plot to kill Foley and Rordan. In order to make out a case it will be necessary to get the testimony of two men, one of whom is in Sing Sing prison serving a sentence. These two will talk, it is expected, before the Grand Jury meets again.

Joseph Brondini, a Brooklyn saloon-keeper, and Tomaso Porcuro, an olive oil importer, were indicted by the Grand Jury to-day, Brondini of subornation of perjury and Porcuro of perjury. Porcuro was one of the witnesses for the defense of Rocco Carnivale and Gaetano Montimagno, accused of killing Gaimari. It is alleged that his testimony in both trials was false and that he was hired and schooled, with others, by Brondini.

The entire record of the defense in the trials of Carnivale and Montimagno will be searched by the Grand Jury for signs of perjury. It is an

(Continued on Second Page.)

BASIS OF WILSON'S STAND IS FORWARDED TO GERARD AT BERNSTORFF'S REQUEST

German Envoy Clears Up Suspicions Raised in Minds of President and Lansing by the Report of U-Boat Commander.

FORMAL REPUDIATION WILL COME WITHIN TEN DAYS

BERLIN, Sept. 16 (via London).—The American Ambassador, James W. Gerard, received to-day a communication from Washington bearing on the Arabic case and the submarine problem.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—The communication to Ambassador Gerard referred to in the foregoing despatch is a summary of the evidence now in possession of the American Government on the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic.

Secretary Lansing forwarded it at the request of Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, that the Berlin Foreign Office might know from what facts the United States was drawing its conclusions in the latest critical phase of the submarine controversy.

The evidence shows that the Arabic was peacefully proceeding without resistance when she was torpedoed without warning. Two Americans were among the lost.

FREIGHT WORKERS' STRIKE LAID TO WAR AGITATORS

Poles, Austrians and Germans Lead Tieup, Railroad Officials Charge.

Strikes of freight handlers were reported to-day from the yards of the Lehigh Valley and the Central Railroad of New Jersey in addition to an increase in the number of strikers at the West Shore yards near Weehawken. About a thousand handlers had quit their jobs at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Railroad officials say the men have been demanding 25 cents an hour instead of 20 cents or less. They say the demands are pretexts to cover the work of agitators among the German, Austrian and Polish workers. Italian and Greek laborers have complained that they would quit the strike if they could be protected from their associates.

The agitators have distributed thousands of Polish-American newspapers setting forth that the only hope for a free Poland is in the defeat of the allies by cutting off shipments from America.

Unskilled laborers were being hired by the hundred to take the places of those who quit.

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP DETAINED BY BRITISH

Muskogee, From New Orleans, Was Bound for Gothenburg.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—The American tank steamer Muskogee, from New Orleans for Gothenburg, and the Danish steamer Polarsjornen, from Baltimore for Gothenburg, have been detained by the British authorities. The Swedish steamer Sir Ernest Cassel has been released.

The Muskogee, which sailed from Newport News Aug. 27, has twice before been detained by the British authorities. She was released by the Prize Court on April 16, and was again held up at Kirkwall for three days in July.

The Polarsjornen sailed from Baltimore Aug. 23 and arrived at Kirkwall Sept. 11.

BERNSTORFF PROMISED DISAVOWAL TO WILSON OF ARABIC ATTACK.

Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador, will leave the city this evening for a short holiday while awaiting a reply from Berlin which he expects to settle definitely the continuance of friendly relations between Germany and the United States, which were jarred on account of submarine warfare.

A condition of distrust has been created in the White House because of the language used in the note on the Arabic handed by the German Foreign Minister to Ambassador Gerard in Berlin last week, which has caused President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing to regard with suspicion the good faith of Germany in promising to modify submarine warfare against passenger liners.

That note transmitted to the United States Government the report of the submarine commander who sunk the Arabic and gave as his excuse that he thought the liner was trying to run him down. The note added that Germany wanted the question of indemnity referred to The Hague tribunal.

Count von Bernstorff has informed Secretary Lansing that there is no intent on the part of Germany to repudiate in the slightest degree the declaration recently made in writing that unarmed passenger liners would not be sunk without warning.

The Secretary replied by asking that Germany prove this by formally repudiating the act of the submarine commander in the Arabic case, and Count von Bernstorff declared that he would obtain such a declaration from Berlin.

The explanation offered by the Ambassador for the Berlin note was that his choice of language was doubtless confusing to the American Government, but that the German Government meant no repudiation of its previous promise. It was merely transmitting to Washington the report of its submarine commander, which had been requested by Ambassador Gerard, and the Berlin Foreign Office was not saying this was final or concerned with the principle at issue.

This evidence was all that Berlin had to go on until to-day when the evidence of the Arabic's sinking